

THE ORDINATION

OF A

Priest,

(TRANSLATED FROM THE ROMAN PONTIFICAL AND MISSAL,)

JUNE 9TH 1867

Rev. Mr. Ramsay
FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST.
at the Gesù -

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Montreal :

PRINTED BY JOHN LOVELL, ST. NICHOLAS STREET.

*Wm. H. Beane*  
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# THE ORDINATION OF A PRIEST.

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*The Bishop begins Mass in the usual manner.*

*After reading the Epistle, he sits down, and puts on his mitre. Then the Archdeacon calls the candidate for ordination, saying : Let him approach, who is to be raised to the order of Priesthood.*

*The Bishop's Secretary reads out the name, and the candidate answers : Here.*

*Then the candidate, vested as a Deacon, with amict, alb, girdle, stole and maniple, holding on his left arm his chasuble folded, and in his right hand a taper and a white linen band, steps forward towards the Bishop. The Archdeacon presents him to the Bishop, saying : Most Reverend Father, Our Holy Mother the Catholic Church requests you to raise this Deacon here present to the Order of Priesthood.*

*The Bishop then asks : Do you know him to be worthy ?*

*The Archdeacon answers : As much as human frailty allows to know it, I do both know and testify him to be worthy for the burden of this office.*

*The Bishop says : Thanks be to God.*

*Then he announces it to the clergy and people, saying : Since, Beloved Brethren, both the helmsman of a vessel and her crew share the same security or the same danger, it is meet that, for their common interest, they should act in unison. It has therefore been wisely established, that in the choice of those that are to be employed in the administration of the altar, the people also should be consulted. For often many things concerning the life and actions of a candidate, although hidden to the many, may be known*

by a few; moreover, obedience is more readily rendered to the ordained, when assent has been given to their ordination. Now, this deacon about to be raised, with the help of God, to the dignity of Priesthood, has led, we trust, a life both irreproachable and pleasing to God, nay, worthy of this increase of Ecclesiastical honor. Still, lest one man or a few might be deceived in their judgment or misled by their feelings, we must ask for the opinion of the many. Whatever therefore you may know concerning his actions and morals, or think of his worth, manifest it with all freedom and sincerity, giving testimony according to merit, not from affection. If then any one have anything against him, let him, for the sake and glory of God, come forward and manifest it. Let him however be mindful of his own condition.

*Then the Bishop, after a short pause, addresses the candidate in the following terms :*

Beloved son, about to receive the consecration of Priestly orders, strive to do so worthily, and afterwards to exercise them in a praiseworthy manner. A priest is to offer, bless, preside, preach and baptize. Thou must then ascend to so high a degree with great fear, and endeavor that heavenly wisdom, high moral worth, and a daily observance of justice may render thee commendable. When the Lord bade Moses to choose seventy men out of all Israel to be his coadjutors, and share with him the gifts of the Holy Spirit, he said: *Take such as you know to be elders among my people.* Thou too, therefore, Beloved Son, hast been pointed out among the seventy men, and the elders, if by the working of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, thou keepest the law of God, and showest thyself both a man of strict integrity, and ripe in science as well as in virtue. Under the same emblem, the Lord in the New Covenant chose seventy-two disciples, whom he sent two by two before him to preach; he wished no doubt to teach us both by his words and acts, that ministers of his Church should be perfect in faith and good works, well

grounded in the virtue of twofold charity, viz., that of God and of their neighbor. Strive, therefore, with the grace of God, to be worthy of being chosen as a coadjutor of Moses and the twelve Apostles, that is of the Catholic Bishops, typified by Moses and the Apostles. Thus the Holy Church is truly surrounded, adorned and governed with a wonderful variety, since some of her children are consecrated as Bishops, others in a lower order as Priests, Deacons, and Subdeacons, and of all these manifold members, varying in dignity, is formed the one mystical body of Christ. Therefore, Beloved Son, whom the will of our brethren has chosen to assist us, preserve in thy conduct the integrity of a chaste and holy life, understand well what thou dost, imitate the holy things thou touchest; so that, whilst celebrating the mystery of the death of the Lord, thou endeavor by mortification to keep thy members free from all sin and lust. Let thy doctrine be for the people of God spiritual medicine; let the good odor of thy life be the delight of the Church of Christ, so that by thy preaching and example, thou mayest build up the house, viz., the family of God, and that thus neither we, for our raising thee, nor thou for thy ascending to so high an office, may be condemned by the Lord, but rather receive the reward from his mercy.

May he grant us this blessing through his grace. Amen.

*Here the Bishop with all his clergy kneels down and remains so during the chaunting of the Litany of the Saints, whilst the candidate lies prostrate on the pavement.*

*After the invocation for the souls in Purgatory, the Bishop rises, turns to the candidate, and holding his pastoral staff in his left hand, imparts his blessing in the following solemn invocations :*

That Thou mayest deign to bless this thy chosen one, we beseech Thee, hear us.

That Thou mayest deign to bless, and sanctify this thy chosen one, &c.

That Thou mayest deign to bless, sanctify and consecrate this thy chosen one, &c.



*Then he again kneels down, and the choir goes on with the chaunt.*

*After the Litany, all rise. Then the Bishop, and after him, each one of the priests present, imposes hands upon the candidate.*

*Then whilst they all stretch out their right hand over him, the Bishop says :*

Let us, dearest brethren, pray God the Father Almighty, to bestow with more plentiful bounty his heavenly gifts on this his servant, whom He has chosen for the dignity of Priesthood, and to extend to him his merciful help, that he may worthily accept so great a favor. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Then the Bishop puts aside his mitre, and turning to the altar says : Let us pray. His attendants answer : Let us bend our knees.—Arise.*

*Then turning again to the candidate, the Bishop says :*

Hear us graciously, we beseech Thee, O Lord our God, and pour out upon this thy servant the blessing of thy Holy Spirit, and of the priestly grace, in order that he, whom we present before the eyes of thy fatherly mercy to be consecrated, may for ever partake of thy choicest gifts. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Then the Bishop sings or reads a Preface, wherein he extols in the loftiest strains the sublimity of the Priesthood in the New Dispensation.*

*After this, he sits down, resumes his mitre, and adapting the candidate's stole on his breast in the form of a cross, he says :*

Receive the yoke of the Lord ; for his yoke is sweet, and his burden light.

*Then he places upon him the chasuble which remains folded on his shoulders, and he says at the same time :*

Receive the sacerdotal vestment, by which is signified charity ; for God is powerful to increase charity, and the perfection of good works in thee.—Thanks be to God.

*The Bishop then, laying aside his mitre, whilst all kneel down, says :*

O God, the author of all sanctification, to whom belongeth all true consecration and bountiful benediction, do Thou pour forth on this thy servant, whom we dedicate to the honor of Priesthood, the gift of thy blessing, in order that, by the gravity of his actions, and his irreproachable life, he may prove himself endowed with that maturity of perfection which Paul inculcated upon Titus and Timothy. May he, by the virtue of the same benediction, constantly meditating thy holy law, believe what he reads, teach what he believes, practice what he teaches, manifest in his conduct justice, constancy, mercy, fortitude, and the other virtues ; may he edify by his example, confirm by admonitions, and preserve the gift of his ministry pure and immaculate ; may he, by his immaculate benediction, change for the sanctification of the people, the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of thy Son, and, having grown with unblemished charity to the perfect man, according to the measure of the fulness of Christ, rise on the day of thy just and everlasting judgment with a pure conscience and true faith, adorned with all the gifts of thy Spirit. Through the same Jesus Christ, &c.

*Then the Bishop, kneeling before the altar, intones the hymn : Veni Creator.*

*Whilst the hymn is being sung, the Bishop resumes his seat, and in full pontificals, anoints with the holy oil of catechumens both hands of the candidate in the form of a cross, saying at the same time :*

Do Thou, O Lord, deign to consecrate and sanctify these hands by this unction and our benediction. Amen.

In order that whatever they bless, may be blessed, and whatever they consecrate, may be consecrated and sanctified in the name of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

*To which the candidate answers : Amen,*

*Here the Bishop joins the candidate's hands, which thus consecrated one of the assistants binds together with the*

*linen. Then, the Bishop presents the candidate a chalice with wine and water and the paten with a host upon it, all of which the candidate receives, touching at the same time the cup of the chalice and the paten, whilst the Bishop says :*

Receive the power of offering sacrifice to God, and celebrating Mass as well for the living as for the dead.

In the name of the Lord. Amen.

*Then the Bishop proceeds with Mass, whilst the newly ordained priest washes his hands and wipes them in the linen band which had bound them.*

#### OFFERTORY.

*At the Offertory, the new priest presents the Bishop with a lighted candle, at the same time kissing his hand. Then, kneeling at the foot of the altar, he reads aloud with the Bishop the Offertory and Canon of the Mass.*

Accept, O Holy Father, Almighty and Eternal God, this immaculate Host, which I, thy unworthy servant, offer unto Thee, my living and true God, for my innumerable sins, offences and negligences, and for all here present; as also for all faithful Christians, both living and dead, that it may be profitable for my own and for their salvation unto life eternal. Amen.

O God, who in creating human nature, didst wonderfully dignify it, and hast still more wonderfully renewed it; grant that by the mystery of this water and wine, we may be made partakers of His divinity, who vouchsafed to become partaker of our humanity, Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord; who liveth, &c.

We offer unto Thee, O Lord, the chalice of salvation, beseeching thy clemency, that, in the sight of thy divine Majesty, it may ascend with the odor of sweetness for our salvation, and for that of the whole world. Amen.

In the spirit of humility and with a contrite heart, let us be received by Thee, O Lord: and grant that the sa-

crifice we offer in thy sight this day may be pleasing to Thee, O Lord God.

Come, O Sanctifier, Almighty, Eternal God, and bless this sacrifice, prepared to thy holy name.

*Washing his fingers he recites the 25th Psalm:* I will wash, &c. *He then proceeds:* Receive, O Holy Trinity, this oblation, which we make to Thee, in memory of the Passion, Resurrection and Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in honor of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, of B. John Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, of these and of all the Saints: that it may be available to their honor and our salvation, and may they vouchsafe to intercede for us in heaven, whose memory we celebrate on earth. Through, &c.

Brethren, pray that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Father Almighty. *The Clerk answers:* May the Lord receive the sacrifice from thy hands, to the praise and glory of his name, to our benefit, and to that of all his Holy Church. Amen.

*Then are recited the Secret Prayers and the Preface with the Sanctus.*

#### CANON OF THE MASS.

We, therefore, humbly pray and beseech Thee, most merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord, that Thou wouldst vouchsafe to accept and bless these gifts, these presents, these holy unspotted sacrifices, which, in the first place, we offer Thee for thy holy Catholic Church, to which vouchsafe to grant peace; as also to protect, unite and govern it throughout the world, together with thy servant Pius our Pope, our Bishop Ignatius, as also all orthodox believers of the Catholic and Apostolic Faith.

*Here is made the commemoration of the living, and mentioned the communion of the saints.*

## ELEVATION.

We, therefore, beseech Thee, O Lord, graciously to accept this oblation of our service, as also of thy whole family; dispose our days in thy peace, command us to be delivered from eternal damnation, and to be numbered in the flock of thy elect. Through Christ, &c.

Which oblation do Thou, O God, vouchsafe in all things to make blessed, approved, ratified, reasonable, and acceptable, that it may become to us the body and blood of thy most Beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who, the day before he suffered, took bread into his holy and venerable hands, and with his eyes lifted up towards heaven, to God, his Almighty Father, giving thanks to Thee, did bless, break and give to his disciples, saying : *Take, and eat ye all of this ;* FOR THIS IS MY BODY.

In like manner, after he had supped, taking also this excellent chalice into his holy and venerable hands, and giving Thee thanks, he blessed and gave to his disciples, saying : *Take, and drink ye all of this ;* FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL TESTAMENT, THE MYSTERY OF FAITH, WHICH SHALL BE SHED FOR YOU AND FOR MANY, TO THE REMISSION OF SINS. *As often as ye do these things, ye shall do them in remembrance of me.*

*The Canon continued.*

Wherefore, O Lord, we thy servants, as also thy holy people, calling to mind the blessed passion of the same Christ thy Son our Lord, his resurrection from hell, and glorious ascension into heaven, offer unto thy most excellent Majesty, of thy gifts and grants, a pure Host, a holy Host, an immaculate Host, the holy Bread of eternal life and the Chalice of everlasting salvation.

Upon which vouchsafe to look with a propitious and serene countenance, and to accept them, as Thou wast gra-

ciously pleased to accept the gifts of thy just servant Abel, and the sacrifice of our Patriarch Abraham, and that which thy high-priest Melchisedech offered to Thee, a holy sacrifice, an immaculate Host. We most humbly beseech Thee, Almighty God, command these things to be carried by the hands of thy holy angel to thy altar on high, in the sight of thy divine Majesty, that as many of us as, by the participation of this Altar, shall receive the most sacred Body and Blood of thy Son, may be filled with all heavenly benediction and grace. Through the same Christ, &c.

*Here is made the commemoration of the dead, and again mentioned the communion of Saints; then comes the Lord's Prayer and the prayers preparatory to Communion.*

*The Bishop, having received the Blessed Sacrament under both kinds, administers Holy Communion in the usual form to the newly ordained, saying: May the body of the Lord Jesus Christ preserve thee unto life everlasting.*

*To which the ordained answers: Amen.*

*Then one of the assistant priests presents the newly ordained with wine in a chalice; after which, the Bishop intones the following Response, which the choir continues:*

I will not now call you servants, but friends, because you have known all that I have done in the midst of you. Alleluia. Receive the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. He it is, whom the Father will send to you. Alleluia. You are my friends, if you will do the things which I command you. Glory be, &c.

*Then the newly ordained solemnly recites the Apostles' Creed, thus making a profession of the faith he engages to teach.*

*After which the Bishop, seated before the altar, imposes hands on the newly ordained, saying:*

Receive thou the Holy Ghost; whose sins thou shalt forgive, they are forgiven them, and whose thou shalt retain, they are retained.

*Then unfolding the chasuble on the shoulders of the newly ordained, he says: May the Lord bless thee with the stole of innocence.*

*After this, the new priest places both his hands in those of the Bishop, whilst the latter asks : Dost thou promise me and my successors reverence and obedience. To which the former answers : I do.*

*Then the Bishop embraces him, saying : May the peace of the Lord be with thee for ever. And the other answers : Amen.*

*The Bishop hereupon addresses him in a few words, blesses him, and then continues the Mass.*

*After the last Orations, having given to the assembly his solemn blessing, he thus again addresses the new priest :*

Most beloved son, consider attentively the order thou hast received, and the duties it imposes ; strive to lead a holy and religious life, and to please Almighty God, that thou mayest be able to acquire His grace, which may He through his mercy grant thee.

After thy first Mass, say three more, one of the Holy Ghost, a second in honor of the Blessed Virgin, and the third for the repose of the faithful departed, and pray to the omnipotent God for me also.

*To which the new priest bows in assent ; then is read the beginning of the Gospel according to St. John.*

